



Cpl. Alisha R. Fitzgerald

(Above) Dan Coughlin tees off at the first hole of The Legends at Parris Island Golf Course during the Club Championship tournament Sunday. Coughlin, his wife, son and daughter-in-law played an extra round of golf after the tournament was over.

(Right) Dave Reynolds keeps his eye on the ball as he attempts to tee off at the first hole at The Legends of Parris Island Golf Course during the Club Championship tournament Sunday. Forty-five golfers competed in the two-day annual tournament, which is said to be Legends' most prestigious tournament of the year.



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# Legends golfers gather to see who's the best of the best

CPL. ALISHA R. FITZGERALD

STAFF WRITER

The Legends at Parris Island hosted its annual Club Championship Golf Tournament Saturday - Sunday.

Forty-five Tri-Command personnel, retirees, DoD civilians and family members played two days of 18-hole golf to determine first and second place in four different flights in what is said to be Legends' most prestigious competition of the year.

"The Club Championship is definitely the tournament of tournaments for us here," said Lain Smith, Legends' golf professional.

The Championship Flight was the top division in which golfers played with no handicaps. Anyone could compete in the flight, but participants were urged to know what they were getting themselves into before registering.

"For one thing it's a 7,000-yard course," said Smith. "Plus, you're playing with no handicap. I would say you'd have to shoot at least a 77 or less to be competitive in the Championship Flight."

Retired Capt. Jerry Uritescu won the Championship Flight with a two-day total score of 156. This marks the second consecutive year Uritescu has earned the Club Champion title. Since retirement in 1976, he has been perfecting his golf game at least four times a week. He has 42 years of golfing experience, and has placed first or second in the Club Championship every year for the past 10 years. With that kind of time and experience on his side, Uritescu's odds for a repeat win this year were favorable.

"I guess I do have a little more free time on my hands than some," he said. "Practice, practice, practice ... that's the only way I've been able to do so well."

Throughout the course of the tournament, however, Uritescu was not 100 percent sure if he would come out on top. He credited the competition in his division as being rather fierce this year.

"I knew I'd have to play exceptionally well to win," he said. "There was a good group of golfers out there, some tough competition. It was a great match overall. It feels

great to win, of course."

Ryan March, a high school junior, won a sudden death match with Bobby Welborn, line staff NCO, Field Training Co., WFTBn., to place second in the Championship Flight. The two finished the 36-hole tournament tied with a score of 159, not too far behind Uritescu.

"The Championship Flight played tough this year," said Smith. "We had a lot of good golfers out there. Anyone could've won. It was a matter of whoever had the best game those particular two days."

After the Championship Flight, there was still a lot of golf to play. While March was placing second in the Championship Flight, his father Dennis, a retired FBI agent, was winning the Senior Flight. This division was for golfers 65 and over playing with full handicaps. Dennis took first place with a score of 129, after a handicap of 12.

**"The Club Championship is definitely the tournament of tournaments for us here."**  
- Lain Smith, Legends' golf professional

A second father-and-son pair did equally well. In the Open Flight, in which anyone was eligible to compete with full handicap, Tucker Larsson, a DoD employee, placed first with a score of 131, after a handicap of 17. His father Tom, took second place in the Senior Flight

with a score of 130, after a handicap of 14.

Nate Williams, a DoD employee at Depot Clothing, was the second-place finisher in the Open Flight, scoring 143, after a handicap of 15.

Only two golfers competed in the Women's Flight and both were allowed to play with full handicaps. Lori Barnes took first place with a score of 144, after a handicap of 28. Montsy Sailors finished second, scoring 155, after a handicap of 23.

Golfers in each flight teed off from specified tee boxes, determined by the overall playing level of each flight. First and second place finishers received granite tee box markers with a Marine Corps Emblem blazoned on the top, along with gift certificates from Legends.

The next scheduled tournament at Legends is the Lady's Island vs. Parris Island Golf Tournament Oct. 25 at 9 a.m. Entry fee is \$15. For more information, call Legends at 228-2240.

# Three remain as soccer tourney approaches final phase

CPL. ALISHA R. FITZGERALD

STAFF WRITER

Three teams remain after the second night of the 2003 Marine Corps Community Services-South Carolina Intramural Soccer Postseason Tournament at the Depot soccer fields Oct. 1.

Air Station, 3rd Bn. and Law Center will battle for the league's top honor during the semifinals and finals of the double-elimination tournament at the fields Wednesday.

Weapons and CSSF were eliminated the first night of the tournament, Sept. 29. Weapons finished the season in fifth place with a 2-8 record, while CSSF took last place at 0-10.

Hospital finished the regular season in third place with a 6-4 record. The team made it the through first night of tournament play, accumulating one loss in the process, only to face 3rd Bn. in the next round. They were defeated 9-4.

Air Station remained undefeated throughout the entire regular season, affording the team a bye in the first round of the tournament. The team's perfect record was threatened only once during the season by 3rd Bn., when one game was forced into overtime. It looked like smooth sailing all the way to the championship for the Air Station players, who were hoping to rebuild their team's legacy after letting the championship slip out of their grasp last year, something very uncharacteristic of past Air Station teams.

Their first game of the tournament was against Law Center, who finished the regular season fourth with a 4-6 record. Everything seemed to be going the Air Station's way, easily subduing Law Center 12-2 in their first game of the tournament.

However, 3rd Bn. had a different fate in mind for its season rival. The team finally conquered Air Station in their first meeting of the postseason, defeating them 8-5.

"It was a loss we are taking to heart, but we knew it would eventually come," said Ben Braudrick, Air Station's team captain and striker. "It was definitely a big wake-up call. It is so hard to try and stay undefeated throughout the entire season, but we'll get them in the finals."

After the performance by 3rd Bn., the players are certain that a rematch later in the finals would turn out the same way, regardless of any promises Air Station makes.

"We played together and they fell apart," said Mike Martinet, 3rd Bn. coach and player, who scored five of his team's goals. "If we play the way we played [during that game], we can't be beat."

Air Station more than proved Martinet's theory true when they failed to come back from a 4-1 deficit in the first half. Air Station was caught off guard, and was forced to play catch-up the remainder of the game.

"We have never been down before, so we weren't expecting to have to come back," said Braudrick. "It is very



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Mike Martinet, 3rd Bn. coach and player, secures possession of the ball from a Hospital defender in a game during the 2003 Marine Corps Community Services-South Carolina Intramural Soccer Tournament. 3rd Bn. won the game 9-4 and remains the only unbeaten team in the tournament.

tough to come back against a team like 3rd Bn. They had the momentum and that's a pretty big thing in sports."

After the win, 3rd Bn. has a guaranteed seat in the championship game. The team will play the winner of the Air Station and Law

Center match up.

After a mediocre season, Law Center said they are satisfied to still be in contention.

"Air Station and 3rd Bn. are top notch, and truly have some players that belong on the collegiate level," said

Willis Victum, wing for the Law Center. "They have really good chemistry and they understand the importance of teamwork."

Coverage of the final night of the tournament will appear in next week's edition of *The Boot*.